

“All human life is a gift from God and should be respected, protected, and loved.”

– The Gospel of Life Study Guide



Cor Ecclesiae Series

The Gospel of Life

Small Group Study Guide to Pope Saint John Paul II's Encyclical Evangelium Vitae



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Knights of Columbus

**The Gospel
of Life**



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Life

What is the Gospel of Life program?

The Gospel of Life program calls upon Knights to educate themselves and others on the topic of human life. The goal of the program is to equip Catholic men with the knowledge they need to fight for the protection of all human life from conception to natural death, especially by studying St. John Paul II's historic encyclical *Evangelium Vitae*, which is Latin for "Gospel of Life."

In this program, councils are encouraged to learn about the importance and significance of human life by studying pro-life materials. They are also encouraged to provide these educational resources to their parishes and wider community. One of the best ways to do this is by leading discussion groups with fellow Knights and parishioners by using the Knights of Columbus *Evangelium Vitae* study guide. By learning these important truths and sharing them with others, councils will be setting themselves up to be the living embodiment of the Pro-Life Movement in their communities and ultimately save both souls and lives and strengthen families.

Why should you study *Evangelium Vitae*?

You will learn:

- Why human life is sacred from conception to natural death
- How to articulate the Catholic Church's teaching on the dignity of the human person
- Why abortion and euthanasia are morally wrong
- What it means to receive and promote "the Gospel of Life"
- How to heal a culture that disregards human life
- How to enkindle in your heart an appreciation for the gift of human life



Other ways to participate

- **Contact pro-life speakers and organize a presentation at your parish** – It can be informational, testimonial or motivational.
- **Partner with others** – Work with other organizations to host pro-life and pro-family conferences and other educational events.
- **Promote pro-life volunteer opportunities** – Set up a table or use a bulletin board to share information about pro-life ministries and volunteer opportunities.
 - Examples include Knights of Columbus Life Programs, such as the Ultrasound Initiative and Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP), as well as the March for Life.

Suggested dates to host your event

While the program can take place at any time of the year, consider the weeks preceding national, state or local marches for life, during 40 Days for Life and Life Chain campaigns, and during Respect Life Month (October, United States), National Family and Life Week (varies in May, Canada) and the International Day for the Unborn Child (March 25).